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Sent to Office of Security
9 Feb 1962

Name: Roberts ANCANS []

Att.: "A" Vilis HAZNERS report to FBI on Roberts ANCANS

Att.: "B" SR/2/Baltic/Latvian card files info on SUBJECT, relatives & possible relatives

NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT

- EXEMPTIONS Section 3(b)
- (2)(A) Privacy ☐
 - (2)(B) Methods/Sources ☒
 - (2)(G) Foreign Relations ☐

Declassified and Approved for Release
by the Central Intelligence Agency
Date: 2003, 2005

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Source: *HEK10/2*
Vilis HAEYERS

14 Dec 61

Roberts ANGANS.

CONTRADICTIONARY PERSON.

His biography in the magazine "Kara Invalids" (Disabled Veteran) #3 contains interesting data on these contradictions. In 1939 he joined the Latvian Army voluntarily, when?

For what reason, after graduation from a training company, was not he sent to courses for non-commissioned officers (usually done with all high school graduates).

During the time of the Russian occupation remained in service with the Red Army.

2. The times of the last war are described with many errors (which ever information one takes, because the data for this article was given by R.A. himself who probably wanted to make himself more important).
 - 1) Several bones in his body were not broken (page 46 of the above magazine).
He never was 50% disabled, probably 30%. Otherwise he would have been relieved from service at the front lines.
 - 2) He was not rewarded with 17 medals, because there were not as many medals in the German army. All his medals are put on at the photographic studio (page 45 of the above magazine). It is not clear to me how he was photographed in an SS uniform; there was no 19th division at that time.
 - 3) I have no doubts that his body is full of wounds, none at all (this sentence is impossible to translate accurately). This is an empty boast. He never was promoted to captain, his highest rank could have been first lieutenant. Neither has he commanded a battalion or a combat group. This is a naked exaccration. He has never strained himself to obtain rent for disabled veterans, nor (during the year 1955) he sought for understanding

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/tried to cooperate with/ from the organization Daugavas Vanagi.

WHAT I HAVE HEARD FROM OTHERS.

In the Latvian Army he was under control as politically suspect. Dienot A(Sic) while serving with Valmiera's Infantry Regiment his actions (and behaviour on duty) was supervised by first Lieutenant Nikolajs LECHMANIS (presently living in Germany and working for the news paper "Latvia"). As Lechmanis has stated, he has not found any compromising anti-government activities in Anc.' actions. It is also established that his (R.A.) one (or two) sisters were convicted for distributing communist leaflets in Latvia.

- 2) When the Communists occupied Latvia (1941) a certain Ancans was elected to Parliament. Later (sources not remembered) there were rumours that it was Robert A.'s brother.
- 3) A certain teacher at Balva high school has stated that while he was a student at the above high school, R.A. was arrested for distributing Communist leaflets (or he was suspected of doing so). How much truth does this contain -- I do not know. I remember that I heard it from K. AUGSTKALNS, an officer of the Latvian Army, who is living in Minneapolis, Minn.
4. In Germany, in 1951-52 he told col. JAHNINGS, that he was working for the American CIA.
- 5) In Augsburg, Germany, he lived suspiciously well, says a lady who lived next door (Mrs. Skrastina); almost every Saturday he had parties in his apartment. And she knows that he lived beyond his means. Also in the USA I have heard that he lived beyond his means. How much truth does this contain I do not know and do not want to judge.

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WHAT I HAVE HEARD FROM OTHERS.

In the Latvian Army he was under control as politically suspect. Dienot 4(Sic) while serving with Valmiera's Infantry Regiment his actions (and behaviour on duty) was supervised by first Lieutenant Nikolajs LECHMANIS (presently living in Germany and working for the news paper "Latvia"). As Lechmanis has stated, he has not found any compromising anti-government activities in Anc.' actions. It is also established that his (R.A.) one (or two) sisters were convicted for distributing communist leaflets in Latvia.

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MY BRIEF CHARACTERIZATION.

Rob. Anc. is undoubtedly a very ambitious person. He is impudent, shameless, and at the same time naive. It would be difficult for me to say that he has any connections with the communists (particularly now), but certainly it is always possible that communists (through other persons) can influence or utilize him for their purposes.

Personally I saw R.A. only occasionally (after the war) in 1947 and I know him from work with the organization Daugavas Vanagi.

R. A.'s WORK WITH DAUGAVAS VANAGI.

He was a member of this organization for many years, about 10. Also in Germany (at this time he was a member of the central committee) he was a leading person. He was silent and inactive, he did not take any active assignments.

During 1954-55 it was established that he was not able to handle the things of honour. He had to go to the court of honour with captain Z. BUTKUS (now living in Milwaukee, Wisc.) and Ancans was not able to defend his case. As a consequence the DV organization's leadership stood by Butkus, and Ancans was not re-elected as a member of the committee.

LATVIAN DISABLED VETERANS' SOCIETY (LKIA).

Established in Germany (Latvian Occupation Memorial day - 17 Jun, in 1955) brought nothing but astonishment. Nobody doubted that this was more or less created by the forces trying to disturb the unity of Latvian Soldiers, because several years ago (and also today) Communist underground publications in Germany, and also Dzintenes Balss (Voice of the Motherland) attacked the organization of Daugavas Vanagi and its leadership's activities. Communist instructions were seen on how to destroy this organization.

This (the Lkia's connection with Communism) was also confirmed later by two active LKI founders -- GAVARS, from Oldenburg, and Schules (who came from

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the US occupation zone), who were founders of LKIA and collaborators of the Communist underground publications in Germany. They later revealed their "heroic deeds" after their repatriation to Riga (written up in the local papers). Roberts Ancans was elected the first chairman of LKIA, which was a surprise. There is no doubt that he took over this assignment only because of his ambition /rest of the sentence is unintelligible/.

After having moved to the United States he (R.A.) founded an LKIA US section and has been its chairman ever since.

The mentioned organization is not large but very active, and an obstinate destroyer of "Daugavas Vanagi". The LKIA is also a weakener of the fighters for liberty and of the emigrés in general.

SOME OBSERVATIONS:

LKIA organization's publications (magazine Kara Invalids) #5 contains the following:

1. First and second pages contain unfounded and incorrect attacks on leading emigré personalities.
2. The second page speaks about restoring the reputation of Latvian soldiers, as if it were not so (I think that it /the reputation/ is very high, and since this is shameless I am not going to talk about it), and calling and forming Veterans' councils. LKIA have already founded such councils, but without the knowledge and consent of veterans. LKIA attached certain assignments to weak people (BRAVERIERS, LAVERIERS) also to uninformed people (GALLERIES and LAVERIERS), and to old soldiers, whose names (who does not know them) they use to deceive Latvian society (helpless old man, quarrelsome, not good for society) etc.

/Following two sentences unintelligible/.

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Those who know the circumstances have no doubt that the purpose of all these formations of councils is not to enforce but to weaken the strength of Latvian emigrés. They follow the same path as Dzintines Balss (Voice of the Motherland) which is in accordance with the aims of the Communist party. LKIA also openly tries to divide Latvian society in general. "Kara Invalids" #5 (pages 12 and 13) highly praises Dr. A. VALDMANIS and Dr. M. WALTERS, both harmful Latvian citizens, to whom Latvian unity is of no value at all. That is why this is an open demonstration against Latvian nationals who are fighting for liberty —standing united against Communism.

Praising both the above men is wrong and their "merits" in regard to Gedelgeras/sic/ times does not correspond to the truth at all.

Page 56 of the same publication is again full of unfounded reproaches cast upon the Daugavas Vanagi. This does not help the consolidation of veterans. Other issues of this magazine are the same (in regard to their contents). How much of this is Roberts Ancans' fault — I do not judge.

People who know him better; such as, V. JANUMS, A. BERZINS, V. PAULERS, and N. LECHMANIS (all in Germany) could give more information about him. Probably also the intelligence section of the Latvian Legion could help. Although I do not know the functionaries of the Legion, probably A. SINGALIS (now in Canada) or A. FLEUSMERS (now in Sweden), who were commanders of the staff of this legion, know them.

I personally do not believe that R.A. is communist oriented, but at the same time I maintain the thought that he is harmful to the combatants for Latvian liberation, that undoubtedly behind the LKIA founders and their successors stands a certain "black hand", which is not known by the active functionaries of LKIA.

It is worth investigating all this. Particularly the striking recent activities indicate that collaborators of "Dzintines Balss" are living and

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working among emigrés (as it was with SAULITE in Sweden) and very obediently fulfill the orders of their Riga bread-fathers(sic). To destroy the strong emigré society and to turn them one from another is the aim of these persons; and in this direction also LKla with its satellites is dilligently acting.

4 Jan 62

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Sent Office of Security
12 Feb 1962

Name : Roberts NMI ANCANS E D

Possible relative: Franciska NMI ANCANS

Res.: Kolkhoz "BRIVALS ZEMNIEKS" (Free peasant),
Livani Rayon, Latvian SSR

Memberships: Communist Party member

SOI: Latvian (Soviet) newspaper "CINA" # 55, 6 Mar 1959

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23 Feb 1962

Name

Cecilija LAPINS, Mrs. - maiden name unknown

Cecilija LAPINS from NYC donated \$ 5,000.- to the Latvian Handicapped Veterans, Inc. in 1958 for the purchase of Latvian Veterans Home: (Rest Home) "ROTA" Elka Pen, New York (Telephone: Pannerville 853 W 1) (SOI: Latvian magazine "KARA INVALIDS" pg. 59, #5, Aug 1961 1959) Chairman of the above organization is Roberts ARJANS [] 103 - 32 115th Street, Richmond Hill 15, New York (Telephone: VI 3-6527)

Cecilija LAPINS donated \$ 100.- to the Latvian Handicapped Veterans, Inc.

SOI: pg. 65, paragraph 4, "KARA INVALIDS" (War Invalid) # 5, August 1961

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